

Pigment Batching Systems

Challenge

John Henry Foster was asked to provide a fully functional, turn-key control system for a mechanical color dispensing machine. The customer supplied the frame, but JHF handled the rest - including hydraulics, pneumatics, electrical controls, and programming.

Goals

- Turn-Key machine
- Accurately batch up to 5 granulated pigments, in any combination, to produce the desired end color
- Batch within specifications, down to 0.01 lb accuracies
- Ease of setup and operation
- Stored batch data

System Features

- Turn-Key machine fully assembled, tested, shipped from JHF
- Variable Speed Hydraulic batching components
- Allen Bradley PLC
- JHF custom software on Windows® based PC for machine operation, graphical representations, and data collection
- SQL database for recipes and batch data
- Automatic Batch Report generation
- "On-Demand" configurable report generation
- On-Site setup and tuning by JHF Engineering staff
- Continued support through remote connectivity

Project Successes

- More than 100 Systems installed across the U.S. and Canada
- Intuitive System - graphical interface for simple operation
- Hundreds of thousands of color batches produced over the last 10+ years

